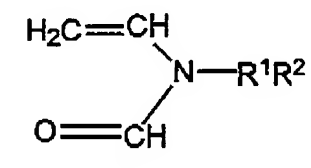
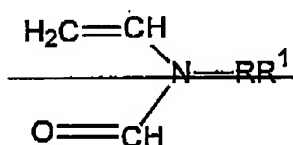


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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings in the application:

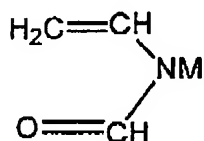
1. (Currently amended) A method of synthesizing a compound having the formula:



comprising the step of:

reacting a N-vinylformamide salt

having the formula



with a compound having the formula XR^1R^2 ~~XRR^4~~ , wherein X is Br, Cl or I, M is an alkali metal or an alkali earth metal, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-\text{OR}^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^4$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are

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independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the N-vinylformamide salt is formed by reacting an alkali metal base or an alkali earth metal base with N-vinylformamide.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the alkali metal base is *t*-BuOK and the N-vinylformamide salt is N-vinylformamide potassium salt.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein X is Br.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein R^1 is a C1-C10 alkylene group.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein R^2 is a C1-C10 alkyl group.

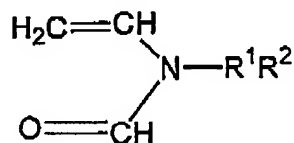
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein R^1 is a C1-C10 perfluoroalkylene group.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein R^2 is a C1-C10 perfluoroalkyl group.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein R^2 is a phthalimide group.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein M is K or Na.

11. (Withdrawn) A method of synthesizing a copolymer comprising the step of reacting a compound having the formula:



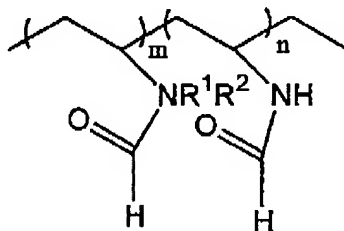
with at least one vinyl compound having at least one vinyl group, wherein R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group,

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an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-OR^3$, wherein R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

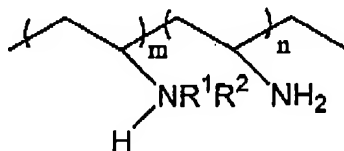
12. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11 wherein the vinyl compound is N-vinylformamide.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12 wherein the copolymer includes the following repeat units:



wherein m and n are integers.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13 further comprising the step of hydrolyzing the copolymer to form a copolymer having the repeat units:



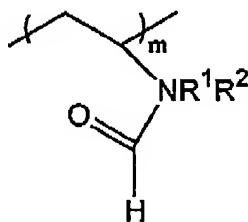
15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 14 wherein the hydrolysis occurs in acidic or basic conditions.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 11 wherein the vinyl compound has the formula $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}-R^6$, wherein R^6 is $-\text{OC}(O)-\text{CH}_3$, $-\text{C}(O)-\text{O}-R^7$, wherein R^7 is an alkyl group, or $-\text{C}(O)\text{OH}$.

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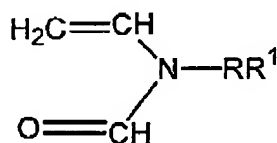
17. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 16 wherein R^7 is a methyl group.

18. (Withdrawn) A polymer having the formula:

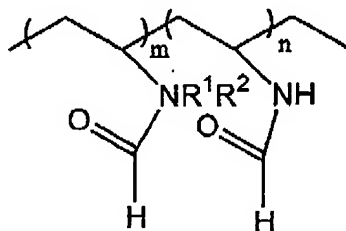


wherein m is an integer, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-OR^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

19. (Withdrawn) A copolymer produced by reaction of a compound having the formula:



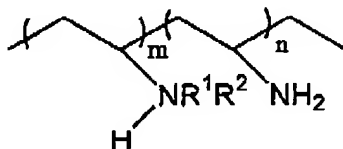
with N-vinylformamide, wherein the copolymer includes the following repeat units:



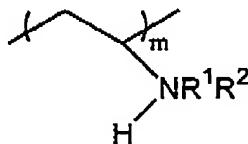
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and wherein m and n are independently, integers, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-OR^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

20. (Withdrawn) The copolymer of Claim 18 wherein the copolymer is hydrolyzed to from a copolymer with the repeat units:



21. (Withdrawn) A polymer having the formula:

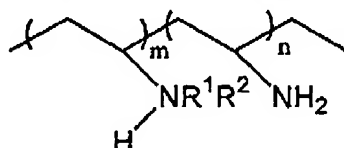


wherein m is an integer, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-OR^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a

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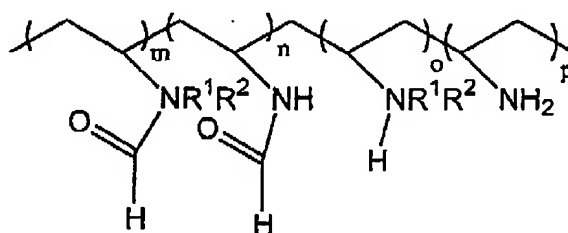
phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

22. (Withdrawn) A polymer having the formula:



wherein m is an integer, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-\text{OR}^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^4$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group, the polymer having end groups that are either .

23. (Withdrawn) A random copolymer including the following repeat units:

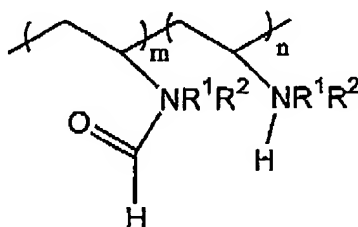


and wherein m , n , o and p are independently, integers, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-\text{OR}^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a

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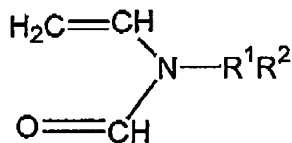
fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

24. (Withdrawn) A polymer including the following repeat units:



and wherein m and n are independently, integers, R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-OR^3$, wherein, R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-C(O)R^4$, $-C(O)OR^4$, $-OC(O)R^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-C(O)R^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

25. (Withdrawn) A compound having the formula:



wherein R^1 is a C0-C25 alkylene group, a C0-C25 fluoroalkylene group or a C0-C25 perfluoro alkylene group, R^2 is H, provided R^1 is not absent, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, an aryl group, a hydroxy group, a polyether group, a

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heterocyclic group of 5 or 6 atoms wherein at least one of the atoms is not a carbon and is N, O, or S, $-\text{OR}^3$, wherein R^3 is an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}^4$, $-\text{OC}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, wherein R^4 is an H, an alkyl group, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group, or an aryl group, a phthalimide group or NR^5R^5 wherein R^5 and R^5 are independently H, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}^4$, an alkyl, a fluoroalkyl group, a perfluoroalkyl group or an aryl group.

26. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein X is Br.

27. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein R^1 is a C1-C10 alkylene group.

28. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein R^2 is a C1-C10 alkyl group.

29. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein R^1 is a C1-C10 perfluoroalkylene group.

30. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein R^2 is a C1-C10 perfluoroalkyl group.

31. (Withdrawn) The compound of claim 25 wherein R^2 is a phthalimide group.

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